

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HELD BY TELECONFERENCE AT 10:00 A.M. ON
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2020

ATTENDEES: Hugh Chaun – Chair, Rich Carson, Peter Brock, Doug Cucheron, Raymond Greenwood, Peter Hamilton, Bill Hooker, Peter Scott, Tim Sehmer, Ken Waithman, Roy Williams, Jack Zaleski

GUESTS: Hugh Lindsay, Brian Maunder, David Scott

1. Hugh Chaun acted as chair and called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Tim Sehmer acted as secretary. The agenda circulated by Hugh on April 15 was approved.
2. A quorum of the board being present, the chair declared the meeting properly constituted for the transaction of business. The chair noted that all the committee chairs were present. The chair then opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of gratitude and support for those in the health industry working on the front lines to protect us from the COVID-19 virus.
3. Minutes of Last Meeting: The minutes of the February 4, 2020 board meeting were approved.
4. Business arising from the February 4, 2020 board meeting:
 - a. Further to the discussion at the February 4 board meeting regarding the Space Centre rental rate for our monthly meetings, Hugh confirmed that the actual rent increase is 22%, from \$1,040 to \$1,265 per month;
 - b. Hugh circulated with the agenda for this meeting an email from David Scott, President of PROBUS Canada (who participated in this meeting's teleconference) encouraging B.C. PROBUS groups to hold meetings using Zoom, and an email from one of our members, Brian Street, also advocating the use of Zoom for virtual meetings;
 - c. The chair announced that he was very pleased that Dan Kalla (a brief bio of whom the chair had circulated with the agenda) had accepted his invitation to be a speaker at our first "virtual" monthly meeting of the members, which has been arranged for 10:00 am (to be confirmed) on Tuesday, May 19. It was agreed that we should purchase a Zoom account for Probus, and Jack was authorized to open an account in his name for that purpose. Jack agreed to take the lead on educating our members as to the use of Zoom, and the chair indicated that he would ask Brian Street to assist in dealing with any problems members may encounter.
5. Secretary's Report: Tim reminded the meeting that he was still waiting to receive lists of committee members from some of the committee chairs.

6. Treasurer's Report:

- a. Doug reviewed the income statement for the eight months ended March 31, 2020, as circulated by him on April 17, and noted that we are more or less on budget;
 - b. Doug advised that a \$180 refund had been received from the Space Centre (as compensation for problems with the connection to the podium microphone at the March 10 meeting). He noted that the Space Centre would be refunding (without any cancellation fee) the room booking for our cancelled April 7 meeting, and that as the Space Centre was closing until further notice, they'd also be fully refunding our prepaid rent for the May and June meetings, so we may end the year with a surplus;
 - c. It was noted that a former member of the Society's management committee had recently passed away, and a question was raised as to our policy with regard to making donations in memory of deceased members to their preferred charity. A discussion ensued as to whether we should be making any donations at all, whether we should only make donations in memory of current (as opposed to former) members, and as to whether former members who had served on the board, or as president, should be treated any differently from former members who hadn't. After much discussion, the *ad hoc* obituary committee (see item 13 below) was asked to consider this matter and make a recommendation to the board. In the interim, we will continue based on past practice and, specifically, will make a donation in memory of Lory Fairfield, one of our recent new members.
7. Speakers Committee: Bill reported that except for the upcoming "virtual" presentation by Dr. Dan Kalla (scheduled for Tuesday, May 19), all other speakers are on hold. Depending on the success of that presentation, and the level of participation by our members, Bill will consider approaching formerly scheduled speakers to see if they'd be willing to participate in a similar format.
8. Membership Committee: Peter Hamilton reported that there are now 368 active members, 4 inactive members, and 5 applicants for membership on the waiting list. It was agreed that we would continue with our new policy of having no limit on the number of guests any one member may bring to a meeting, but waiving the \$5 guest fee only for the first visit by each guest, with the fee being payable on any subsequent visit by the same guest.
9. Activities Committee: Jack advised that the visit to an Ismaili mosque planned for April had been cancelled, and all other activities are on hold until things return to semi-normal.
10. Newsletter Editor: Nothing to report.
11. Member Services Committee: Nothing to report.

12. Website & Database Committee: The status quo is being maintained and the database is up to date. Nothing new to report.
13. Ad Hoc "Obituary Committee": The chair circulated with the agenda for this meeting a draft policy prepared by an *ad hoc* committee comprised of George Adams, Raymond Greenwood, Hugh Lindsay, Brian Maunder, Roy Williams, Norm Weizel and Peter Scott. The draft policy deals with the steps to be taken on the passing of a member, and is intended to replace the policy approved at a June 6, 2017 meeting of the management committee. Brian Maunder and Hugh Lindsay were in attendance to discuss and answer questions on the proposed policy. As noted above, there had already been some discussion by the board on the issue of donations in memory of deceased members, and further discussion ensued regarding whether or not the *ad hoc* obituary committee should be entrenched as a permanent committee of this board, with the consensus being that it should continue as a sub-committee one of the existing committees. Roy volunteered that it might logically fall under the umbrella of the "historian/archivist" board position. The *ad hoc* committee was asked to include this issue with the others that it was considering, and come back to the board with a recommendation.
14. Historian/Archivist: Nothing to report.
15. Nominations Committee: Peter reported that the committee has secured nominees for all positions on the board for the coming year (i.e. August 1, 2020 – July 31, 2021), except vice-president. Tim agreed to be nominated as vice-president for the coming year, and a brief discussion ensued as to finding a replacement secretary.
16. New Business:
 - a. Hugh called for a motion to approve reimbursement of Leede Jones Gable for the cost of our use of their conference call facilities for this meeting, but Peter Brock advised that no reimbursement was necessary. A vote of thanks to Leede Jones Gable was passed unanimously;
 - b. Hugh advised that the next board meeting would be scheduled in approximately one month's time (which will give us an opportunity to assess the success of our first "virtual" presentation to the members on May 19), and will be held using Zoom.
17. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.